GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2047
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2001
THREAT TO RESEARCH WORKS
ALE NARENDRA

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned `Deshbhar main Research Karya Band Hone Ke Kagar Par` appearing in the `Hindustan` dated February 9, 2001;

(b) if so, the details of the facts reported therein;

(c) whether the Government have made any review in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a),(b),(c)&(d) Yes Sir. The article mentions that the provision of the `Committee for Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals` is affecting the scientific research in the country. According to Chapter IV, Section 14 of `Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960`, nothing in the Act shall render unlawful the performance of experiments on animals for the purpose of advancement by new discovery of physiological knowledge or of knowledge which will be useful for saving or prolonging life or alleviating suffering or for combating any disease, whether of human beings, animals or plants. The basic mandate of the Committee for Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals is to ensure that the animals are not subjected to unnecessary pain or suffering before, during or after performance of experiments on them. There is nothing in the rules notified on 15.12.1998, which prohibits the research activities provided the concerned institutions comply with the provisions of rule in the letter and spirit.